



## UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
 United States Patent and Trademark Office  
 Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
 P.O. Box 1450  
 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
 www.uspto.gov

|   |  |                                   |
|---|--|-----------------------------------|
| U.S. APPLICATION NUMBER NO.<br>10/550,767       | FIRST NAMED APPLICANT<br>Norman R. Byrne | ATTY. DOCKET NO.<br>Byrne P232US1 |
| INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO.<br>PCT/US05/14495 |  |                                   |
| I.A. FILING DATE<br>04/27/2005                  |  | PRIORITY DATE                     |

Thomas L Lockhart  
 Varnum Riddering Schmidt & Howlett  
 Bridgewater Place  
 PO Box 352  
 Grand Rapids, MI 49501-0352

CONFIRMATION NO. 1638

371 ACCEPTANCE LETTER



\*OC000000021122740\*

Date Mailed: 11/08/2006

**NOTICE OF ACCEPTANCE OF APPLICATION UNDER 35 U.S.C 371 AND 37 CFR 1.495**

The applicant is hereby advised that the United States Patent and Trademark Office in its capacity as a Designated / Elected Office (37 CFR 1.495), has determined that the above identified international application has met the requirements of 35 U.S.C. 371, and is ACCEPTED for national patentability examination in the United States Patent and Trademark Office.

The United States Application Number assigned to the application is shown above and the relevant dates are:

|  |  |
|--|--|
| <u>09/27/2005</u>  | <u>09/27/2005</u>                                    |
| DATE OF RECEIPT OF 35 U.S.C. 371(c)(1), (c)(2) and (c)(4) REQUIREMENTS | DATE OF COMPLETION OF ALL 35 U.S.C. 371 REQUIREMENTS |

A Filing Receipt (PTO-103X) will be issued for the present application in due course. **THE DATE APPEARING ON THE FILING RECEIPT AS THE " FILING DATE" IS THE DATE ON WHICH THE LAST OF THE 35 U.S.C. 371 (c)(1), (c)(2) and (c)(4) REQUIREMENTS HAS BEEN RECEIVED IN THE OFFICE. THIS DATE IS SHOWN ABOVE.** The filing date of the above identified application is the international filing date of the international application (Article 11(3) and 35 U.S.C. 363). Once the Filing Receipt has been received, send all correspondence to the Group Art Unit designated thereon.

The following items have been received:

- Indication of Small Entity Status
- Copy of the International Application filed on 09/27/2005
- Copy of the International Search Report filed on 09/27/2005
- Copy of IPE Report filed on 09/27/2005
- Oath or Declaration filed on 09/27/2005
- Request for Immediate Examination filed on 09/27/2005
- U.S. Basic National Fees filed on 09/27/2005
- Power of Attorney filed on 09/27/2005

Applicant is reminded that any communications to the United States Patent and Trademark Office must be mailed to the address given in the heading and include the U.S. application no. shown above (37 CFR 1.5)

---

KAREN M WILLIAMS

Telephone: (703) 308-9140 EXT 213

PART 3 - OFFICE COPY

FORM PCT/DO/EO/903 (371 Acceptance Notice)